

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 30A, Section 20, notice is hereby given for the following meeting of the:

***Arlington School Committee
School Committee Meeting
Saturday, May 21, 2016
9:30 AM***

School Committee/Superintendent's Retreat

*Arlington High School
Superintendent's Office
869 Massachusetts Avenue, 6th Floor
Arlington, MA 02476*

The School Committee/Superintendent Governance Retreat with Nancy Wassler

Professional Development Workshop for the School Committee and Superintendent

Adjournment

The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair; which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Stated times and time amounts, listed in parenthesis, are the estimated amount of time for that particular agenda item. Actual times may be shorter or longer depending on the time needed to fully explore the topic.

Submitted by Jennifer Susse, Chair



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

Meeting

Summary:

School Committee/Superintendent's Retreat

Arlington High School
Superintendent's Office
869 Massachusetts Avenue, 6th Floor
Arlington, MA 02476

REVISED DRAFT (May 10)

2016-2017 DISTRICT GOALS

GOAL 1: Student Achievement The Arlington Public Schools (APS) will ensure that every graduate is prepared to enter and complete a post--secondary degree program, pursue a career, and be an active citizen in an ever--changing world by offering a rigorous, comprehensive, standards--based and data--driven K--12 system of curriculum, instruction, and assessment that integrates social, emotional and wellness support.

- 1-1 Identify the essential learning standards and progressions by discipline at all levels and align curriculum and instruction as well as assessments with those standards and progressions. This alignment will support efforts to prepare students for college and career (two-year timeline).
- 1-2 Refine the educational vision and programs of the high school, integrating its core values and identified essential habits of mind, in order to meet the needs of all students to prepare them for college and career in a globally connected world. Space utilization recommendations for the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) feasibility study for a renovated or rebuilt high school will be based on the refined vision and programs.
- 1-3 Establish a district-wide committee to assess the Student Support Team model, the *Response to Intervention* process and special education support at all levels to recommend changes in the current model to better meet the needs of students needing academic and social-emotional support.
- 1-4 Establish a planning committee to assess the district's strengths and challenges in creating safe and supportive school environments for all students and for providing students with social-emotional skills needed for college and career readiness and to be contributing members of a democratic society.

Goal 2 - Staff Excellence and Professional Development the Arlington Public Schools will recruit, hire, retain, and build the capacity of a diverse staff to be excellent teachers and administrators by providing high quality professional development aligned to needs, instructional support, coaching, and an evaluation framework that fosters continuous improvement.

- 2-1 Provide professional development to support the implementation of the new science curriculum in grades 4-5 and the new mathematics curriculum in grades K-1.
- 2-2 Provide teachers and administrators with cultural competency/cultural proficiency professional development opportunities.

2-3 Provide on-going and regular professional development in technology to support teachers in using technology to enhance teaching and learning in their classrooms.

Goal 3 - Resources, Infrastructure and Educational Environment The Arlington Public Schools will offer a cost effective education that maximizes the impact of taxpayer dollars and utilizes best practices, academic research, and rigorous self--evaluation to provide students and staff the resources, materials and infrastructure required for optimum teaching and learning in a safe and healthy environment. Strategic Initiatives:

3-1 Complete the Stratton renovation project for the school to reopen in September 2017.

3-2 Complete the design of the Thompson addition.

3-3 Implement the next phase of the Technology Plan.

3-4 Complete modules 1 – 3 in the MSBA process to rebuild or renovate the high school.

Goal 4 - Operations, Communication and Stakeholder Engagement The Arlington Public Schools will be run smoothly, efficiently and professionally. The district will operate transparently and engage in effective collaboration and responsive communication with all stakeholders. It will provide timely, accurate data to support financial decision--making, envisioning of the district's future, and long--range planning in partnership with other Town officials. Through these actions it will create broad support for a high quality education system that is the community's most valuable asset. Strategic Initiatives:

4-1 Complete a dashboard of district metrics to provide the community with a quick overview of key metrics of the Arlington Public Schools.

4-2 Increase the diversity of the APS staff over the 2015-2016 staffing levels to better reflect the diversity of our students.

4-3 Implement upgrades to the district's financial software and provide professional development for all users to improve the efficiency of financial operations.